

BLM-Eastern States ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2009

BLM



 American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Project
Meadowood Trail Rehabilitation and Construction

Trail Work Ahead
Construction equipment may be on trail
Follow instructions of trail workers when
proceeding

For more information contact Jeff McCusker, Bureau of Land
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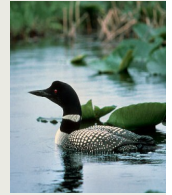
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Cover Photo: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) trail building project.
Pictured: Douglas Vinson and David Lyster, BLM employees hired with AARA funding.

The BLM received \$305 million to fund more than 650 projects across the country under the ARRA of 2009. The investments will restore landscapes and habitat, spur renewable energy development, and create jobs. One of the projects funded is trail building at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area. When completed in September 2010, three miles of existing trails will be rebuilt, and one mile of new trail and a trailhead will be constructed.



Welcome to BLM Eastern States

From the State Director

I want to thank and acknowledge everyone who contributed to the success of the BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) in FY2009. First, our employees have done a tremendous job in staying focused; the support of our Washington Office staff has been critical to our success; and many of our partners have contributed both their time and talents to help forward BLM's mission. To everyone who has played a role in helping the BLM-ES exceed our expectations in FY2009 – Thank You!

We exceeded our expectations in 52 areas by 100% and in 18 areas we accomplished over 125%. Specifically, in our Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program we achieved 110% of our target; scanning of historical documents we achieved 134% of our target; our Jackson Hot Shot fire crew did prescribed burning on over 150,000 acres in the southeast; and we led a strong youth program this past summer. We signed several Memorandums Of Understandings (MOU) in FY2009 including our first prison training program for Wild Horses and Burros with the Parchman prison. We also signed a MOU with the Choctaw Tribe for cadastral work.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has been an important initiative for the BLM-ES and we are implementing several projects for this initiative.

As we review our success in FY2009 our eyes now turn to FY2010. We will work hard to build on our past success.

Juan Palma



BLM-Eastern States

Executive Leadership Team

ES Guiding Principles

We Believe in...

**The joy of stewardship of the incredible public lands.
Participative management and collaboration.
Recognizing and celebrating accomplishments.
Individuality, diversity and creativity.
Our employees being connected to the mission.**

We are...

**Devoted to our mission.
Professional and focused on our goals.
Proactive in thought and action.
Supportive and understanding.**

We act with...

**Integrity and fairness.
Open and directive communication.
Respect and expect the same in return.**

We Promote...

**Safety first.
A positive outlook and are motivated to go above and beyond.
An enthusiastic and friendly environment.**

State Director: Juan Palma

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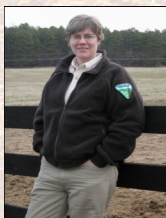
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History, Mission and Vision



In 1946, the Grazing Service merged with the General Land Office (GLO) to form the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM was charged with managing the Nation's Public Domain—the lands held in Federal ownership for the benefit of the American people.

The Eastern States Land Office (ESLO) carried on the GLO business of providing cadastral survey records and land title information from BLM's headquarters office in Washington, DC. By 1954, the BLM had taken on Federal onshore minerals responsibilities, resulting in greater activity in the Eastern States. More and more natural resource related challenges emerged in the East, and soon the ESLO began to operate in the same manner as BLM offices in the Western States, where most of the public land is located.

The ESLO officially became BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) on April 8, 1980. Since then, we have played a central role in fostering the management and conservation of public lands and resources spanning the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations.

This area encompasses 30,000 surface acres of public lands and more than 40 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate.

The surface acreage we manage for the American public is important for recreation and wise resource use, especially because of its location in the highly populated East. We continually seek input from the public and forge new partnerships to ensure that these lands and resources are managed effectively.



BLM-Eastern States' Area of Jurisdiction



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)— otherwise known as the stimulus package on February 17th, 2009. It is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Act is an extraordinary response to a crisis unlike any since the Great Depression, and includes measures to modernize our Nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.

The Bureau of Land Management received \$305 million of the \$787 billion provided to create and maintain jobs, stimulate the economy, encourage infrastructure investment, promote energy efficiency, and enhance BLM's National System of Public Lands.

The BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) received \$1.85 million to fund four Recovery Act projects. In addition, we received \$180,000 to administer and manage the program.



Reconstructing a trail at Meadowood with ARRA funds.

In FY2009, work was initiated on two of the four projects, one being the trail project at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) on the historic Mason Neck Peninsula. This project created two term jobs, and contracts for materials, rental equipment, and construction services have been awarded. When completed in September 2010, three miles of existing trails will be rebuilt, one mile of new trail will be constructed, a stream crossing will be rebuilt, and a trailhead will be constructed with the \$300,000 provided.

These new and rebuilt trails will be used by equestrians, walkers, runners, and bicyclists. The trail work will result in erosion control and water quality protection while providing for improved recreation experiences.



Douglas Vinson and David Lyster, BLM employees hired with ARRA funding, continue to rebuild part of a 3 mile trail system at Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area.

The second project to be funded is the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) in Florida. This \$500,000 project will stabilize habitat and restore shorelines along the Indian River Lagoon (Intracoastal Waterway) where it meets the Loxahatchee River in Palm Beach County, Florida. The contractor will develop alternatives to stabilize the bluffs and shoreline, provide for safe and sustainable public use where feasible, and enhance the habitat for the Federally endangered West Indian manatee. The alternatives will be shared with BLM's partners at the ONA as well as the public in the area. Once an alternative is selected, the contractor will refine the design before funding is sought for the construction.



The shorelines at Jupiter Inlet were damaged by the 2004 hurricanes and erosion has been exacerbated by heavy boat use and dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway, creating a public hazard.

The design project compliments a similar shoreline stabilization effort being run by the U.S. Coast Guard along another section of the ONA. The BLM project is scheduled to be completed by June 30, 2010.

A deferred maintenance project is also scheduled to be initiated in December 2009 at the Jupiter ONA. The \$557,000 project at the ONA involves restoration work on the three oldest buildings within the ONA – the lighthouse, the oil house, and the keeper’s workshop. For the lighthouse, and oil house, the oil-based paint will be removed from the interior walls which will then be prepared and repainted with a paint that will protect the porous brick structure. The windows and railing in the lighthouse tower will also be repaired and repainted. It is anticipated that this will be completed for the 150th anniversary of the lighthouse in 2010. The remaining portion of the project is the restoration of the turn-of-the-century lighthouse keeper’s workshop, including lead paint and asbestos abatement, so this building can be opened to the public. This will be done through a contract awarded in FY2010, with work scheduled to be completed by December 30, 2010.

The other project at the Jupiter Inlet ONA is a \$495,000 trail construction project that will be done as part of the plan developed pursuant to the act that created the ONA in May 2008. This project calls for the construction of a parking area and a series of trails, boardwalks, and overlooks with interpretative signage that will explain the rich cultural resources including prehistoric cultures of the ONA. The work, particularly the signage, will also help protect habitats for over 25 special status plant and animal species found at the ONA while enhancing the visitor’s recreation experience. It is anticipated that this project, which will be done through a contractor, will be completed by mid-December 2010.

Although the funding is only a small portion of the total allocated under ARRA, the BLM-ES is putting these dollars to wise use to complete on-the-ground projects that will benefit local communities and the public resources managed for American taxpayers.



Jackson Field Office staff and ARRA project contractors assess mangrove growth at the tidal lagoon constructed on the north side of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse ONA.



Program Accomplishments



Energy and Mineral Resources

The energy and mineral resources program is one of BLM-ES' largest programs. We manage approximately 40 million acres of mineral estate. We work effectively with industry partners and conservation organizations to oversee environmentally sound fluid and solid mineral development to help sustain a healthy economy and environment. Overall we generated \$124 million to the Federal Treasury and distributed \$27 million to State Governments.

Oil and Gas Program

The BLM-ES's oil and gas program produces significant revenues that are shared with the States in which those revenues are generated. In 2009, we administered more than 3,900 Federal mineral leases, covering approximately 2.25 million acres in 16 of the 31 Eastern States.



In 2009 we issued 156 leases for oil and gas parcels, covering over 87,995.56 acres in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

In addition, we:

- Approved 1,583 fluid minerals Sundry Notices, which are changes to operations on existing oil and gas wells.
- Held four competitive oil and gas lease sales, offering 189 parcels with total acreage over 90,817.28 acres; and issued 74 leases covering 38,292.94 acres, bringing in over \$1.4 million in new rentals, fees, and bonuses.
- Conducted 1,028 compliance inspections of drilling and production activities on leases in the States of Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, Alabama, Indiana, and Virginia.
- Closed 35 reservoir management drainage cases to resolve the loss of lateral oil and gas reserves to private wells.
- Approved 37 oil and gas agreements to prevent drainage of Federal minerals.
- Approved 57 applications for drilling permits (APDs).
- Designated and approved the largest exploratory unit agreement ever for Eastern States; the Ozark Highland Unit which is over 180,000 acres.
- Completed over 200 case file reconciliations with the Minerals Management Service.

Coal Program

Part of the BLM-ES mission is to oversee leases of Federal coal. There are an estimated 50.31 million tons of coal which are recoverable from existing and proposed coal leases in the BLM-ES area of jurisdiction. In 2009, we administered 13 coal leases,

covering more than 24,400 acres in the States of Alabama and Kentucky totaling \$3.3 million in coal revenue.

In addition we:

- Performed 29 compliance inspections and production verification activities on existing coal mines.
- Completed the Federal Register package for the East Lynn Lake (ELL) Coal Lease Project.
- Processed two post lease actions, including lease renewals modification, terminations, and relinquishments.
- Received royalties of approximately \$3,400 for 770 tons of Federal coal removed and sold from lands on the Wayne National Forest during construction of the right-of-way for the Route 33 by-pass around Nelsonville, Ohio.

Solid Minerals Other Than Coal

In 2009, we administered 60 solid mineral permits and leases for clay, gold, lead/zinc, limestone, olivine, phosphate, quartz crystals, and wavellite on more than 70,500 acres in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Virginia.

We also:

- Completed 56 mineral reports such as prospecting permit applications, color of title, and minerals conveyance.
- Processed 50 post lease actions, such as lease modifications, reviewing mining exploration plans, and bonding modifications.
- Performed 110 compliance inspections and production verification activities.



Estimated Revenues from Federal Mineral Leases and Distributions to States in Fiscal Year 2009*

(values are calculated to the nearest dollar)

State	Revenues	Disbursements
Alabama	36,309,437	17,218,402
Arkansas	9,483,322	3,320,709
Florida	840	3,273
Illinois	256,176	175,849
Indiana	149,420	14,208
Kentucky	1,649,133	436,751
Louisiana	139,365,670	29,578,972
Michigan	2,819,945	836,787
Minnesota	50,209	12,996
Mississippi	12,563,297	6,540,801
Missouri	8,057,994	2,060,263
Ohio	734,451	452,981
Pennsylvania	57,998	43,462
Virginia	380,087	142,981
West Virginia	829,664	399,890
Total	212,707,643	61,238,325

***Based on Minerals Management Service (MMS) 2009**

www.mrm.mms.gov/MRMWebstats/Home.aspx

Planning

The BLM-ES completed the Alabama/Mississippi Resource Management Plan (RMP). The RMP addresses the leasing of BLM-administered minerals and establish the guidance, objectives, policies, and management actions for lands and minerals. Please visit: http://www.es.blm.gov/AL_MS_RMP/index.php for more information.

The Southeastern States RMP, the largest multiple State RMP ever proposed by BLM, has been initiated. This is a nine State planning effort to address public domain and Federal mineral estate issues across the Southeast. Scoping for the document has been completed, and presently various management alternatives are being developed.

Also this year, the Draft Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Comprehensive Management Plan was completed. This plan describes roughly three dozen proposed actions that address a myriad of issues ranging from public access to passive recreation.

National Landscape Conservation System— Jupiter Inlet

The Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) mission is to conserve, protect and restore nationally significant landscapes recognized for their outstanding cultural, ecological and scientific values. The NLCS was established in 2000 and includes over 886 Federally recognized areas and approximately 27 million acres of National Conservation Areas, National Monuments, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and Conservation Lands.

On Friday, December 5, 2008 several hundred people in south Florida witnessed the dedication of the most easterly unit of the NLCS, the 126-acre Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA). Key note speaker, then Bureau of Land Management Director James Caswell, noted that "the addition of JILONA into the NLCS makes the system truly national in nature with units now reaching from sea to shining sea." Several other dignitaries provided remarks as well, including the U. S. Coast Guard's Commanding Officer of the 7th District, Rear Admiral Robert Branham, and Jamie Stuve, President of the Outstanding Natural Area's non-profit partner, the Loxahatchee River Historical Society.

Local elected officials including Palm Beach County Commissioner Karen Marcus, Town of Jupiter Mayor Karen Golonka, and Village of Tequesta vice-Mayor Thomas Paterno participated in the ceremonies. Commissioner Marcus expressed thanks to the Congressional delegation for moving so swiftly on the Outstanding Natural Area proposal put forth by the collaborative partnership known as the Jupiter Inlet Working Group.

The JILONA represents one of the few locations where history and natural history have so perfectly converged. It is known for abundant natural resources, such as fresh water and rich fisheries that lured Ponce De Leon in 1513 to take respite at Jupiter Inlet for several days. It's bluff at the confluence of the Loxahatchee and Indian Rivers has attracted indigenous people for thousands of years and provided the optimal location to construct a lighthouse to safely guide ships past the treacherous reefs and sand bars off of the Jupiter Inlet.

The public and dignitaries also had the opportunity to enjoy this rich history and natural history by taking part in Lighthouse and boat tours on this December day.



Members of the Jupiter Inlet Working Group posed for a photo during the dedication ceremony for the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area held on December 5, 2008.



The Lower Potomac Field Station unveiled the first ever BLM National System of Public Lands Sign. “This official designation will ultimately make it easier for the public to identify these lands and more readily understand the multiple-use mission that Congress has given to the BLM.” said former BLM Director James Caswell during the sign unveiling ceremony.

Natural Resources

From the steamy swamps of Louisiana to the pristine islands in the north woods of Minnesota, BLM-ES manages a variety of natural resources on widely scattered tracts, located on more than 17,000 acres of BLM public lands. Some of these resources are truly outstanding, and we are proud to be stewards of these priceless “jewels” in the East.

Meadowood, Virginia

The Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) encompasses 800 acres of mature forests, open meadows, and riparian areas on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Fairfax County, Virginia. Located just 25 miles south of Washington, D.C., the property contains miles of scenic hiking and horse-back riding trails. Visitors can experience a variety of natural settings and view abundant wildlife, from white tailed deer and wild turkey to an occasional bald eagle perched high in trees or soaring overhead. BLM manages recreation and natural resources on the property and offers a variety of environmental education programs to local schools and groups. A BLM contractor provides public horse boarding and riding lessons at the 46-horse equestrian facility.

This year we:

- Hosted seven Boy Scout Eagle Projects which included Boy Scouts constructing trails, building bridges, and installing tree shelters.

- Worked with Fairfax County and other agencies to manage the deer population, identify invasive species, and enhance fishing opportunities.
- Partnered with the U.S. Army Caisson Platoon to provide facilities for training and pasturing Caisson Platoon horses.
- Entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Quail Unlimited to restore open meadows and enhance ground-nesting bird habitat.
- Constructed a reroute of the Meadowood Trail traversing the west parcel of Meadowood.
- Provided opportunities for public events, such as a large high school cross-country meet.
- Unveiled the first National System of Public Lands sign at the SRMA on Thursday, January 8, 2009.



White Tailed Deer are one of the many species of wildlife seen at the SRMA.

Douglas Point, Maryland

The 548-acre Douglas Point area in Charles County, Maryland is part of the 1,270-acre Nanjemoy Natural Resource Management Area (NRMA) along the Potomac River. The area is managed cooperatively by BLM and the State of Maryland. Public recreation opportunities include hiking, boating, and hunting, as well as the opportunity to learn about the unique paleontology, archaeology, and history of the area. Cultural and natural resources of this area include 58-million year old Paleocene epoch fossils such as shark teeth, sunken World War I ships, and the early 17th Century Chiles Homesite. Abundant natural resources in the area include wildlife native to the forests and marshes, such as bald eagles, herons, ospreys, nesting waterfowl, deer, turkey, muskrats, beavers, and foxes.



A shark tooth fossil and Turritella fossil both found at Douglass Point. The diversity of fossils found at the Douglas Point SRMA include invertebrates, vertebrates and plants.

Lathrop Bayou, Florida

This year, BLM-ES collaborated with State, private, and other Federal agencies on the management of the Lathrop Bayou Habitat Management Area, an area with the most intact longleaf pine forest remaining in Bay and Gulf Counties on the panhandle of Florida.

A lightning strike fire ignited at Lathrop Bayou on May 13, 2009 and burned intermittently through the pine flatwoods for five days. The fire ignited in the southeast corner of the island and burned a total of 201.8 acres, including 173 of BLM's 189 acres, before burning itself out.

The fire came on the heels of two previously conducted prescribed burns (2004 and 2007) at Lathrop, which cleared decades of accumulated fuels. As a result this lightning strike fire burned at a low intensity and met all of the resource objectives for this fire adapted habitat. Two clutches of federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker chicks, totaling 5 chicks, were banded during the week of the burn and have subsequently fledged.



Within two weeks of the fire the wiregrass was 9-12" tall and within six weeks rare plants, including Chapman's crown-beard and Federally listed Florida skullcap, were blooming.



Archaeologists work to assess the Chiles Homesite chimney.

In 2009 we:

- Constructed a universally accessible trailhead with public parking at the Chiles Homesite Interpretive Trail.
- Provided public opportunities for hunting the abundant turkey, deer, and waterfowl in Nanjemoy NRMA in cooperation with the State of Maryland.
- Worked with the State of Maryland to identify and reduce the spread of invasive plants.
- Completed an inventory and assessment of historic wells, home sites, and the Chiles Homesite chimneys. Archaeologists and historical architects prepared a report documenting their findings and provided a strategy for stabilizing the chimneys.



Lake Vermillion Islands

Lake Vermilion, Minnesota

Lake Vermilion covers about 40,000 acres and is one of the largest lakes in northeastern Minnesota. The lake has hundreds of bays and inlets, with 1,200 miles of shoreline, and more than 365 islands. Of these, 86 islands are public, where visitors can enjoy picnicking, bird watching, and fishing. The lake area is home to bald eagles, loons, ospreys, and a variety of other wildlife and fish, including deer, moose, mink, otter, wolves, walleye, bass, bluegill, and muskellunge.

This year we:

- Collaborated with the Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion to develop a partnership to monitor islands.
- Continued partnership efforts with the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe and the 1854 Treaty Authority, an Inter-Tribal natural resource management agency, which formalized our commitment to collaborative management and protection of archaeological and Tribal resources within the Lake Vermilion Recreation Area.
- Continued to work closely with Federal and State agencies and partners to develop long-term management plans and conduct on-the-ground site evaluations.

Fort Morgan Peninsula, Alabama

The Fort Morgan Peninsula, located in Baldwin County, Alabama, is comprised of seven beach tracts totaling 28.7 acres, and is adjacent to the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. These tracts provide access, parking and recreation along the beaches of the Gulf Coast. In FY2009, several meetings were held to discuss the outcome of the Alabama/Mississippi Resource Management Plan and how it relates to the adjacent administered tracts. In addition, all annual monitoring on the tracts was completed.

Most of the BLM administered tracts in this area are coastal sand dune habitats with open sand, partially stabilized for dunes and fringes of inland scrub habitats. Vegetation on coastal dune habitats is dominated by sea oats; other typical species include beach morning glory, penny wort and railroad vine. Interdunal areas typically support cordgrass, sedges and beach elder. Inland areas are dominated by a canopy of sand or slash pine with shrubs such as yaupon, gallberry, scrub oaks, wax myrtle and saw palmetto.

Lands and Realty

Through our Lands and Realty program, we provide for public land identification, land tenure adjustments, and responses to public inquiries on land title issues.

In 2009 we:

- Processed over 1,231 requests regarding land title, patent transfer and land sales inquiries.
- Processed the disposal of 244 acres of Federally-owned mineral interest.
- Processed the disposal of 4,499 acres of Public Domain Lands.
- Verified 8,237 acres of lands identified as unpatented in the State of Louisiana and initiated the verification of 807 acres of unpatented land in the State of Wisconsin.
- Provided technical staff support for mineral adjudication, tract book validation, competitive lease sale preparation, and lease issuance.
- Collaborated with an interagency team formed to establish the Eastern Energy Corridors.
- Worked with the USDA Forest Service, Region 9, to process withdrawal actions related to the Superior National Forest Feasibility Study for an exchange of lands with the State of Minnesota.
- We completed the withdrawal revocation for the Sanibel Island Lighthouse Reservation located in Lee County, FL. After the approved revocation, the City of Sanibel applied for the 44.77 acres of public land under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.



Sanibel Island Lighthouse



Each year, thousands of individuals and companies apply to the BLM to obtain a right-of-way (ROW) on public land. A ROW grant is an authorization to use a specific piece of public land for projects, such as roads, pipelines, transmission lines, and communication sites.

- Conducted basic ecological inventory of 64 of the 588 public-domain islands in Wisconsin, which contain more than 100 acres.
- Issued a Right-of-Way Grant in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
- Prepared a Cost Recovery Agreement for a 30 inch pipeline Right of Way (ROW) application submitted by Tennessee Gas Pipeline for the expansion of natural gas transmission in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Cadastral Survey

The BLM-ES cadastral survey's core function is to uphold the Secretary of the Interior's survey responsibilities for determining the boundaries of Federal public lands within our 31-State area of jurisdiction. Other functions include the care and maintenance of duplicate copies of plats and field notes for all public land States in the east and the west. In addition, we collect data for the Bureau's Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB), we employ Bureau Indian Land Surveyors (BILS) at both Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regional offices in our jurisdiction, and provide public education and outreach regarding the Public Land Survey System.

We accomplished many tasks outlined in our 2009 business plan, including holding the first face-to-face workshop since 2001, and filling key vacancies such as the Office Chief, the Survey Vault Technician, two Land Surveyors, and the Midwest Region BILS.

We focused on renewing our relationships with our internal and external customers and renewed our participation on national survey committees such as the GCDB managers committees, the Cadastral Chief committee, and the Office and Field Chief committee.



BLM-ES group photo at the 2009 workshop.

Fiduciary Trust Model:

We continued to support the Fiduciary Trust Model by employing our BILS located in each BIA regional office to assist the BIA realty staff with survey planning and technical questions.

One of the major accomplishments of this program area was a signed interagency agreement creating a new BIA survey project office in Philadelphia, Mississippi. The creation of this office increases efficiency in the use of the BIA money by reducing the amount of travel dollars needed for the projects completed in the local vicinity. We will begin performing surveys from this office in early 2010.

Field Survey and Plat Approval:

Our field survey projects are funded by the requesting agency. Our largest client is the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The Eastern and Midwest Regional Offices fall within our area of jurisdiction. We work closely with the two offices to ensure we are providing quality boundary management and survey services to the Tribes in these areas. This year we completed the following field survey projects:

- BIA Projects (Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina and Wisconsin): 13
- Army Corps of Engineers (Illinois): 1
- US Forest Service (Arkansas): 1
- BLM (Minnesota and Florida): 3

Public Outreach and Inquiries:

We provided answers to many questions from the public regarding BLM survey records and technical survey questions. We also conducted our “Retracement Camp”, a training session for surveyors regarding the retracement of previous BLM surveys, in partnership with Troy State University and the Alabama Society of Professional Surveyors. In addition, we provided speakers to multiple high school and college classes and the local chapter of the historical society in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Duplicate Plat Filing and Survey Records Automation Project:

We continued to support the entire BLM Cadastral Survey program by fulfilling the Secretary’s duties of filing the duplicate copies of plats from the western States.

This year the cadastral staff continued our support of the survey records automation project. We completed the scanning and posting of all survey plats housed at Eastern States within our thirteen public land States. This includes all the plats for AL, AR, FL, LA, MI, MN, MS, and WI. We have not transitioned to scanning the field notes and will continue to post additional documents in 2010. We also assisted the GLO Branch with the implementation of adding the land status documents to the website and continued to scan and index field notes for New Mexico under a Service Level Agreement (SLA).



Eric Wright demonstrates the cadastral archeology principles taught in the spring workshop.



Participant in the Parchman Prison Training Program.

Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB):

We collected 93 townships of data into the GCDB this year. We have conducted extensive research to study the quality and quantity of our GCDB data. This research will be the basis of a new focus for the program in the future.

Wild Horse & Burro Adoption and Compliance

The BLM-Eastern States' wild horse and burro program plays a vital role in finding good homes for America's "Living Legends". The traditional type of adoption – Satellite Adoptions, now places 65% of all animals in the East. New product lines for adoptions include: Volunteer Fostering, Trainer Incentive Programs, Mustang Makeovers, Prison Training, and Mini-Adoptions. This year, BLM-ES placed 38% of all animals nationwide, and exceeded the previous years effort by 200 animals.

In Fiscal Year 2009, we:

- Used adoptable wild horses from the BLM, for the Parchman Prison Training Program. Minimum security inmates are now learning the skills necessary to become certified horse trainers through this program.
- Placed 1,349 horses and burros into private care, with the majority of those being adopted at 30 satellite locations hosted in communities across 18 States.



A volunteer and a yearling peak the interest of a young attendee at the Cream Ridge, NJ Mini-Adoption.

- Provided assistance to the Mustang Heritage Foundation for two Mustang Makeovers: Wisconsin and Florida. Each event placed 30 trained horses into adopted homes.
- Recruited 26 past adopters through BLM-Eastern States' Volunteer Fostering program to find homes for animals unclaimed at the end of satellite adoptions. These volunteers placed 105 animals into good homes.
- Placed 84 animals with qualified sale buyers, with the assistance of the Washington Office.
- Promoted the wild horse and burro adoption program with the help of volunteers at the numerous equine fairs throughout the East. Staff provided literature to local mustang clubs in our region to help them promote our adoption program, including the American Mustang and Burro Association, and other smaller local groups.
- Held four National Adoption Day (NAD) events including Meadowood, where eight internet animals were picked up, and 24 animals were adopted on site. Other NAD events were held at Piney Woods School, and in Cream Ridge, New Jersey, and Mequon, Wisconsin.
- Hosted six Internet adoptions at the national Wild Horse and Burro Internet Adoption Web site: www.adoptahorse.blm.gov. Of the 211 animals adopted on-line, 94 found homes in the Eastern States.

Wildland Fire

The Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew (JIHC) remains the centerpiece of the BLM-ES wildland fire program. The JIHC was established in 1997 to provide an additional national fire suppression resource, as well as to help develop a more diverse workforce. The JIHC is based in Jackson, MS which because of its proximity to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, helps the JIHC to recruit a diverse workforce interested in pursuing a career in fire management. Approximately 50 percent of the people hired each year for the JIHC are minorities (African Americans, Native Americans, and Asian Americans), both male and female.

This year the JIHC:

- Supported fire suppression efforts and battled wildland fires in the States of Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, and Montana.
- Graduated 34 individuals from the fire academy, who were able to find employment in the fire community once all the basic firefighter courses were completed. The Fire Academy is part of a partnership between BLM, Alcorn University, and Florida A&M University.
- Provided ignition and holding support for over 150,000 acres in partnership with the Forest Service. Most of the prescribed burning took place in areas that are in close proximity to urban interface situations, and, in all of these areas, the threat of disastrous wildland fire has been reduced.
- Prepositioned in Wyoming and performed much needed fuel hazard reduction work in the Worland Field Office.



Sylvia Baca, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land & Minerals Management, and Don Glenn, Group Manager for the WH&B program, recognize State Director Juan Palma (center) for reaching the milestone of 75,000 adopted horses in the Eastern States at National Adoption Day.



The JIHC gathers for a training demonstration.

General Land Office Records

The BLM-ES is the custodian of more than nine million historic land title records dating back to 1787. There are records from the 30 Public Domain States: 13 States in the East: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, and Wisconsin; and 17 States in the West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

In 2009 we:

- Piloted the Federal Land Status Records (LSR) feature that includes: Colorado, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, and North Dakota Master Title Plats (MTP's) being added to the website. MTP is a large scale graphic illustration of current Federal ownership, agency jurisdiction, and rights reserved to the Federal Government on private land within a township. The MTP's are continually updated as status or survey information changes. There are also supplemental plats to enlarge an area with detail and plats for certain uses such as oil and gas leasing, coal leasing, and other minerals. The General Land Office (GLO) staff indexed over 10,000 plats that were posted to the website: www.glorerecords.blm.gov

- Scanned more than 3.8 million patent records since the project began in 1989. Currently, there are over 4.6 million land patent and data records available on the GLO website.
- Automated over 172,000 military bounty land warrant patents and posted them to the GLO Records website.
- Exhibited the GLO Records website at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina, the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. in Suitland, Maryland, the 5th Annual Genealogy Fair at National Archives in Washington, DC, and at the Fairfax Genealogical Society in Fairfax, VA.
- Received more than 20,155,025 page views during 1,426,581 visits to the GLO Records website. The website provides public access 24 hours a day, free of charge.

National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. In 2009, 150,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, removed trash and invasive plants, planted trees, and restored our water resources.

NPLD began in 1994 with three Federal agencies and 700 volunteers. On September 26, 2009, 150,000 volunteers worked at over 2,000 locations in every State and in many U.S. territories. Now, eight Federal agencies and many State and local governments participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands.



Kate Marks demonstrates the use of a sewing loom, one of the steps in book binding, while giving a tour of the bindery.



Derek Strohl from the Milwaukee Field Office instructs attendees at NPLD.

BLM-Eastern States has participated in NPLD since the first event in 1994, and this year each field office held events in FL, VA, and WI.

- The Milwaukee Field Office (MFO) held their event on Bikepath Island in the Milwaukee River in Grafton, Wisconsin. Members of Boy Scout Troop 840 cleared brush and picked up approximately 200 pounds of trash from the island and river.
- The Jackson Field Office (JFO) held their 14th Annual NPLD Event at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area. Many volunteers at NPLD assisted with projects such as trash removal along the intercoastal waterway, and potting several thousand young mangroves.
- Lower Potomac Field Station (LPFS) held their annual NPLD day with Pohick Bay Regional Park at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area. Volunteers spent the morning building trails, pruning, removing invasive plants, and cleaning up trash. Students from Freedom High also got the opportunity to fish at Hidden Pond after all the hard work.

Partnerships

The BLM-ES is committed to maintaining active partnerships with States, county's, communities and groups interested in public land and resource management.

In 2009 we:

- Held several campouts at Meadowood SRMA and Prince William Forest Park in Triangle, Virginia. Our partner groups included: The Greater Washington Urban League, Inc., The George Washington Carver Outdoor School, Inc., Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools and Concerned Black Men .



Young campout attendees posed for a photo at one of the BLM-ES camping events.



We partnered with the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) in Grand Rapids, MI to network with professional outdoor communicators about wildlife habitat management.

- Assisted in hosting the Science Olympiad with the University of Southern MS. This event is dedicated to improving the quality of youth science education, increasing male, female and minority interest in science, creating a technologically-literate workforce, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement.
- Partnered with Northern Virginia Community College and local schools on a variety of after school activities.
- Actively formalized curation agreements with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Fairfax County Park Authority in Virginia, and the Minnesota Historical Society, to ensure responsible long-term curation of BLM artifacts and archaeological materials from our public lands in the East.



We signed an official MOU for the Cooperative Stewardship and Preservation of Heritage Resources Agreement for BLM's Big Lake and Rice Creek tract in Vilas County, Wisconsin with the Lac Du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to cooperatively manage a 56 acre Traditional Cultural Property.



In May, the Jackson Field Office partnered with Jupiter High School's Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy to conduct a fantastic "Take It Outside" project. Approximately 50 students participated in the event, which studied water quality, sediment and flow, and species diversity at the wetlands located at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area.

Environmental Education and Public Outreach

The BLM-ES provides a variety of environmental education and outreach programs to help educate the American public and promote responsible environmental stewardship among youth. We work with partners for Federal, State, and public and private organizations to develop ways to enhance environmental education opportunities for the general public. Visitors can learn more about BLM's environmental education program by visiting the BLM-ES' website at: www.blm.gov/education.

In 2009 we:

- Presented a "Rocks and Minerals and How We Use Them" class for the Mississippi Teachers Conservation Workshop, a hands-on conservation program with emphasis on forests and other natural resources.
- Hosted exhibits and seminars in Mississippi and Arkansas with local 4-H groups.
- Continued a partnership with Piney Woods School in MS, a historically black boarding school, to provide environmental education to many summer students.
- Participated in National Kids Fishing Day, the Mason Neck Fall Festival, and a variety of other events in DC, VA and MD.

- Exhibited at the Mississippi State Fair for 10 days in October 2008 reaching over 600,000 individuals.
- Conducted multiple minerals education programs for local Mississippi schools.
- Exhibited at the Mississippi Archaeology Expo. The fair is a day-long special event featuring fun and educational activities for all ages, such as demonstrations of archaeological techniques as well as prehistoric and historic lifeways.



John Sullivan assists with an activity at WATERFEST held at the reservoir in Brandon, MS. Approximately 2,000 individuals attended the event and learned about the importance of conserving water.



Secretary Salzar addressed a crowd at Kids Fishing Day in Washington, DC where BLM-ES employees volunteered to help inner-city kids experience fishing for the first time.

- Conducted a river clean-up with Ozaukee High School on a 10-mile stretch of the Milwaukee River that includes three BLM islands. They installed four wood duck nest boxes, two bat houses, and one screech owl nest box on two of the islands.
- Participated with several groups from the community in Disabilities Awareness month. The event included the Very Special Arts, Penfield's Children Center, Parents Group of St. Colette Day School, St. Francis Children Center, and Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans Easter Seals.
- Provided environmental education activities for 6,000 youth in the Washington, D.C. area and offered programs such as "Pathways to Fishing", "Urban Leave No Trace", and "Who Polluted the Potomac". Many of these events took place at the Lower Potomac Field Station.
- Participated in the 74th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Arlington, VA.

Volunteers

During 2009, the BLM-ES continued to expand its volunteer recruitment efforts and opportunities through the use of our Volunteer Website at www.volunteer.gov, *Vantage* newsletters, and continued outreach at local high schools in Virginia, DC, and Maryland. Volunteers contributed 25,916 hours of work, a value of \$524,799.

In 2009:

- The MFO volunteers contributed approximately 4,847 hours in support of Geographic Information Systems and Global Positioning Systems, business and natural resources and the Wild Horse & Burro Adoption Program.
- LPFS provided over 4,600 volunteer hours on a wide variety of projects at Meadowood, from trail building to tree planting. They also organized volunteers for the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup, National Trails Day, and Rock Creek Park Cleanup.
- Volunteers in the JFO contributed over 3,200 hours of service in programs such as our WH&B program and environmental education. They also conducted monthly bird and plant surveys, and developed a photo database for all the flowering plants and organized the species list associated with the Jupiter tract.
- Wild Horse and Burro volunteers contributed a total of over 14,000 hours to BLM-ES.
- Phillips School volunteers contributed over 100 hours of service in the State Office.



EarthSangha volunteers contributed over 1,100 hours, and planted over 1,400 native herbs, shrubs, and trees at Meadowood this year.



During NPLD in Jupiter, Dr. Jack and Elizabeth Hailman, were recognized for all their hard work during the last year by Faye Winters, BLM Wildlife Management Biologist.

Youth Initiative

Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, has made getting more youth involved in the Department of the Interior a top priority. Salazar has started a new department-wide youth program to introduce young Americans from all backgrounds to the beauty, values, and importance of our national parks and monuments, refuges, public and tribal lands, and to promote an ethic of and appreciation for volunteerism and conservation among young people.

The BLM-ES has taken this mission seriously and participated in the 2009 DC Summer Youth Employment Program (DCSYEP). A total of twelve young people worked at the BLM-ES Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and presented environmental education activities to young campers, assisted with environmental education activities for 50 Camp Fire USA summer camp kids, and assisted the children with hiking, fishing, and bird watching.

When not working with young campers, the DC Summer Youth planted trees and worked on trails at Meadowood. In addition, some of these students who worked in the State Office with the General Land Office (GLO), Dockets, and Bindery.

BLM-ES also hosted ten additional students who were assigned to Public Affairs, Human Resources, Cadastral Survey, Contracting and Procurement, Mailroom, Natural Resources,



Students assisted local youth in the "how to's" of bird watching and identification.

Business Resources, Lands and Realty, and the Wild Horse and Burro Program. The Eastern States Office retained five of the ten students who are now currently employed full time at the State Office, Milwaukee Field Office, and Jackson Field Office.



Summer Students met with Mike Nedd, Assistant Director for Minerals and Realty Management while at BLM-ES.

In 2009 our students:

- Planted over 20 trees on the Thompson Creek Trail on Meadowood to prevent erosion and conducted trail maintenance.
- Worked with over 300 urban youth introducing; "Urban Leave No Trace", mammal presentations, activities on migration and team building.
- Indexed over 2,000 land records and prepared approximately 500 records to be inventoried and stored, and prepared these records to be sent to the National Archives Records Administration.
- Reviewed over 160 position descriptions to determine proper Fair Labor Standards Act codes.
- Appeared on radio and television and assisted in placing advertising to promote the BLM-ES Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program.
- Contributed articles for *Vantage*, the BLM-ES newsletter and wrote press releases.
- Helped with administrative procedures for Oil and Gas lease sales.



SCEP student educates children about the BLM-ES Wild Horse and Burro Program.

Financial Information

Congressional and State Government Outreach

The BLM-ES contacted 94 congressional offices, 30 more than last year. Outreach is made to ensure staff members and elected officials have the best possible information regarding Bureau activities in their States and districts.



BLM-Eastern States' Appropriated Funding

Level for Fiscal Year 2009
(does not include one-time funding)
(figures in thousands of dollars)

Natural Resources.....	\$ 1,366.8
Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Compliance.....	\$ 2,675.0
Energy and Minerals	\$ 5,088.9
Lands and Realty.....	\$ 2,533.1
Wildland Fire	\$ 643.0
Cadastral Survey.....	\$ 1,054.0
GLO Records Automation	\$ 1,182.0
Administration.....	\$ 2,757.0

Total Budget
(BLM-appropriated funds) \$ 17,299.8

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Fiscal Year 2009

Each year, the Department of the Interior disburses payments in lieu of taxes to States in which there are Federal lands and resources. These payments are appropriated by Congress.

State	FY 2009 payment	Entitlement Acres
Alabama	\$685,234	797,763
Arkansas	\$3,917,683	3,269,899
Connecticut	\$28,131	12,042
Delaware	\$17,354	7,403
District of Columbia	\$24,631	6,963
Florida	\$4,600,719	2,550,469
Georgia	\$2,397,205	1,275,440
Illinois	\$1,058,185	482,588
Indiana	\$641,040	312,960
Iowa	\$434,023	185,338
Kentucky	\$2,245,050	1,253,879
Louisiana	\$528,877	750,246
Maine	\$326,618	117,485
Maryland	\$99,913	41,791
Massachusetts	\$99,809	39,747
Michigan	\$4,336,151	2,163,659
Minnesota	\$2,736,684	2,900,255
Mississippi	\$1,469,166	1,638,475
Missouri	\$2,760,923	2,052,338
New Hampshire	\$1,686,757	761,349
New Jersey	\$94,439	40,309
New York	\$139,400	59,813
North Carolina	\$4,047,121	1,720,089
Ohio	\$730,179	358,760
Pennsylvania	\$514,117	653,028
Puerto Rico	\$20,893	30,233
South Carolina	\$382,647	775,696
Tennessee	\$2,409,845	1,244,658
Vermont	\$879,257	409,925
Virginia	\$3,809,111	2,050,856
West Virginia	\$2,551,988	1,242,581
Total	\$45,673,150	29,206,037



Photo: This young volunteer and her parents joined over 300 volunteers on a multi-day planting and site stabilization project along the flood-damaged Thompson Creek .

As Guardians of the Past and Stewards for the Future, BLM-Eastern States is committed to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands and resources spanning the 31 states east of and adjacent to the Mississippi River for present and future generations.